

# *Falconry UK*

## *Activity Pack*

*For All Key Stages*



*Falconry UK*

0844 504 7742

[www.falconry-uk.org](http://www.falconry-uk.org)

[admin@falconry-uk.org](mailto:admin@falconry-uk.org)



# *Falconry UK*

## *Questions*

1. Why do Owls have Large Eyes ?
2. What is the Glove called that Falconer's wear ?
3. Why do some Owls have Light Coloured Eyes ?
4. Some Owls have Ear Tufts, What are they ?
5. Why do Owls have large round / flat facial disc ?
6. What do Birds of Prey use to grip their prey ?
7. Which senses do Owls use to hunt at night ?
8. Which is the fastest Bird of Prey ?
9. In Birds of Prey, which are the largest, Males or Females ?
10. What is the most common Prey for Owls ?
11. How do Owls look, Left, Right, Up and Down ?
12. What happens to the undigested food of an Owl ?
13. What is the 'Moult. ?
14. Name one British Owl ?
15. Owls whiskers what are they used for ?



# *Falconry UK*

## *Rearrange Letters*

*Sheet 1*

1. Rearrange the letters to name this night time Bird of Prey.

LOW

---

2. Rearrange the letters to make the name of a Bird of Prey.

AWKH

---

3. Rearrange the letters to make the name of a Bird of Prey.

GEELA

---

4. Rearrange the letters to make the name of a Bird of Prey.

KTELRSE

---

5. Rearrange the letters to make the name of a Bird of Prey.

ULTUREV

---



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## Rearrange Letters

Sheet 2

1. Rearrange the letters to name this night time Bird of Prey.

YONSW    OLW

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Rearrange the letters to make the name of a Bird of Prey.

LEAEG    WOL

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Rearrange the letters to make the name of a Bird of Prey.

ONLDGE    GEELA

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Rearrange the letters to make the name of a Bird of Prey.

MNEARICA    KTELRS

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Rearrange the letters to make the name of a Bird of Prey.

PSCSO    LOW

\_\_\_\_\_



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## Rearrange Letters

Sheet 3

1. Rearrange the letters to name this night time Bird of Prey.

ERD ILAETD KAHW

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Rearrange the letters to make the name of a Bird of Prey.

ARLU WOL

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Rearrange the letters to make the name of a Bird of Prey.

OWOD WLO

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Rearrange the letters to make the name of a Bird of Prey.

LTURUEV

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Rearrange the letters to make the name of a Bird of Prey.

ATWYN AELEG

\_\_\_\_\_



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## Rearrange Letters

Sheet 4

1. Rearrange the letters to name this night time Bird of Prey.

RTEAG RYAG LOW

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Rearrange the letters to make the name of a Bird of Prey.

URROWINGB OLW

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Rearrange the letters to make the name of a Bird of Prey.

AKERS ALFCON

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Rearrange the letters to make the name of a Bird of Prey.

ALCOFN

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Rearrange the letters to make the name of a Bird of Prey.

IYLKM LOW

\_\_\_\_\_



# *Falconry UK*

## *Rearrange Letters*

*Sheet 5*

1. Rearrange the letters to name this night time Bird of Prey.

LABCK AEGLE

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Rearrange the letters to make the name of a Bird of Prey.

EREGRINEP ALFCON

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Rearrange the letters to make the name of a Bird of Prey.

TEPEES GEELA

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Rearrange the letters to make the name of a Bird of Prey.

ARSHM WOL

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Rearrange the letters to make the name of a Bird of Prey.

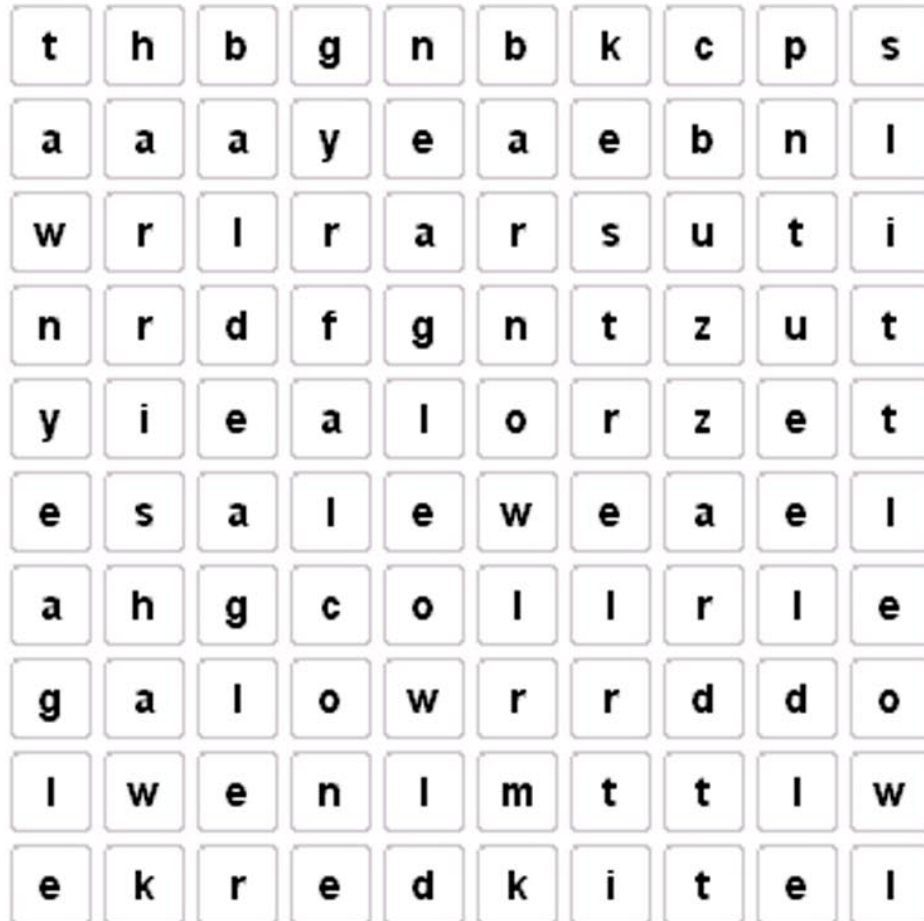
URASIANE ESKTREL

\_\_\_\_\_



# Falconry UK

## Word Search

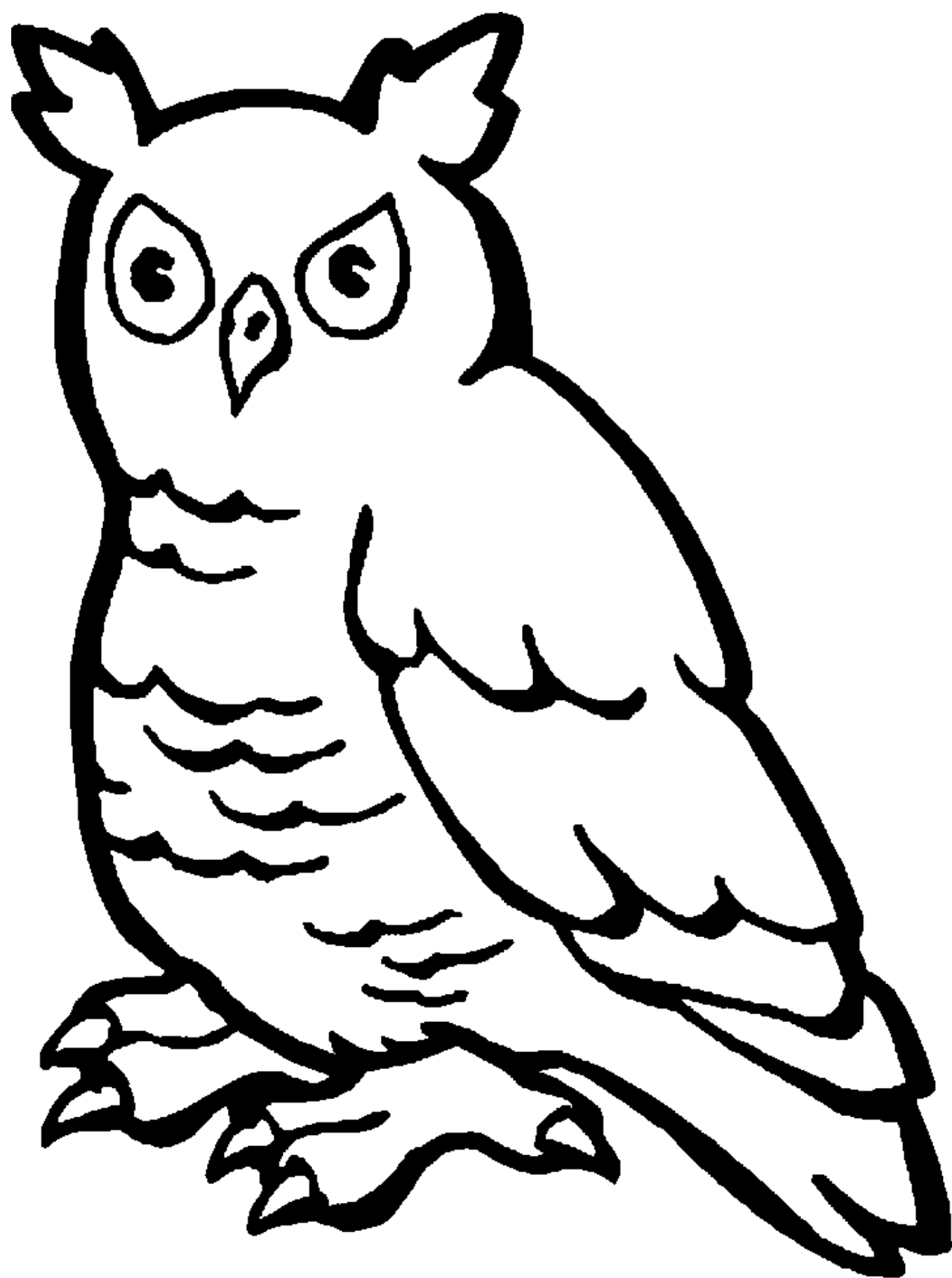


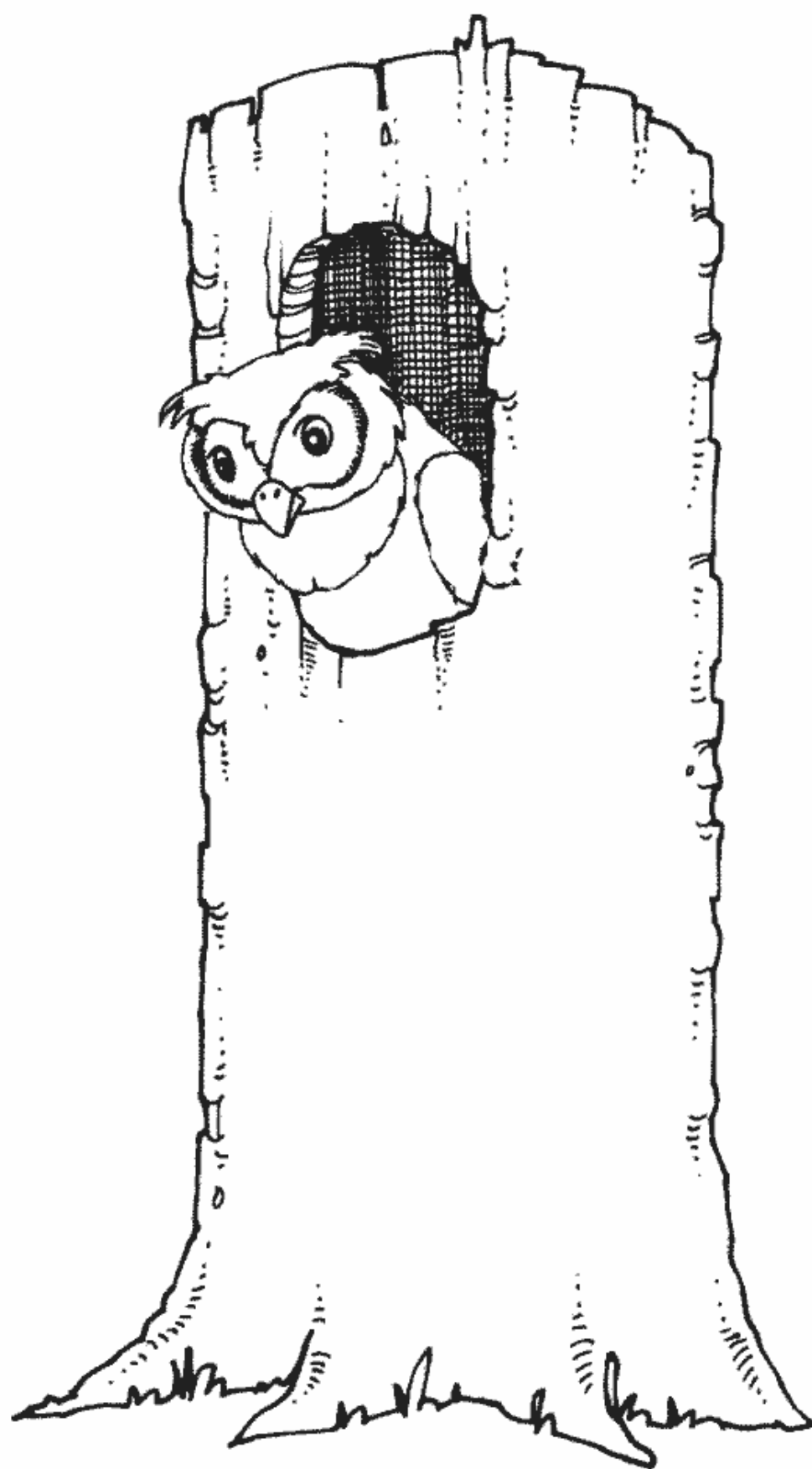
Find the names of the 10 Birds of Prey listed below.

1. Kite
2. Eagle
3. Owl
4. Buzzard
5. Hawk
6. Gyr Falcon
7. Falcon
8. Kestrel













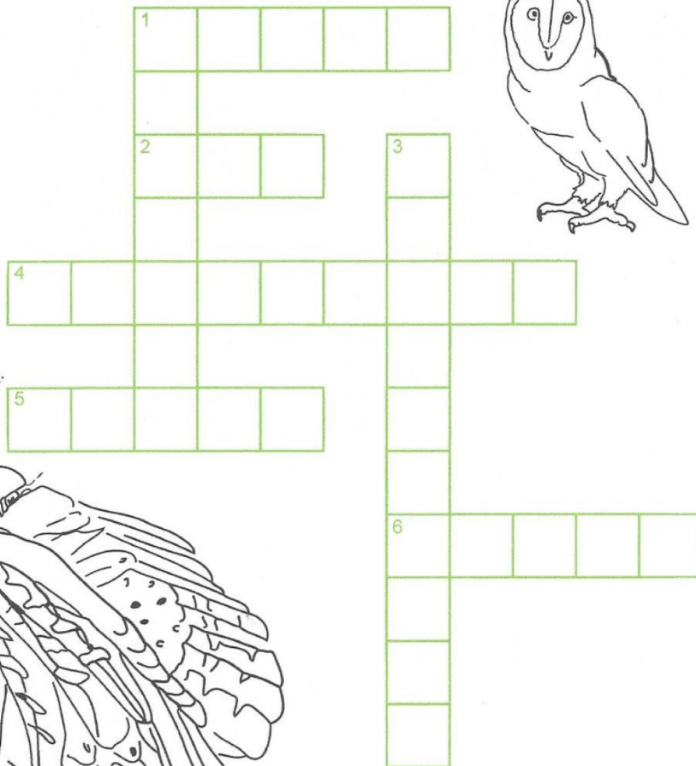
# Barn Owl

## Across

1. What is the shape of the barn owl's face?
2. What time of year do barn owls nest?
4. The barn owl's favorite nesting site is where?
5. When do barn owls hunt?
6. What type of land do barn owls hunt most on?

## Down

1. Barn owls can hunt using this sense by itself.
3. Sometimes the barn owl's face is called \_\_\_\_\_.



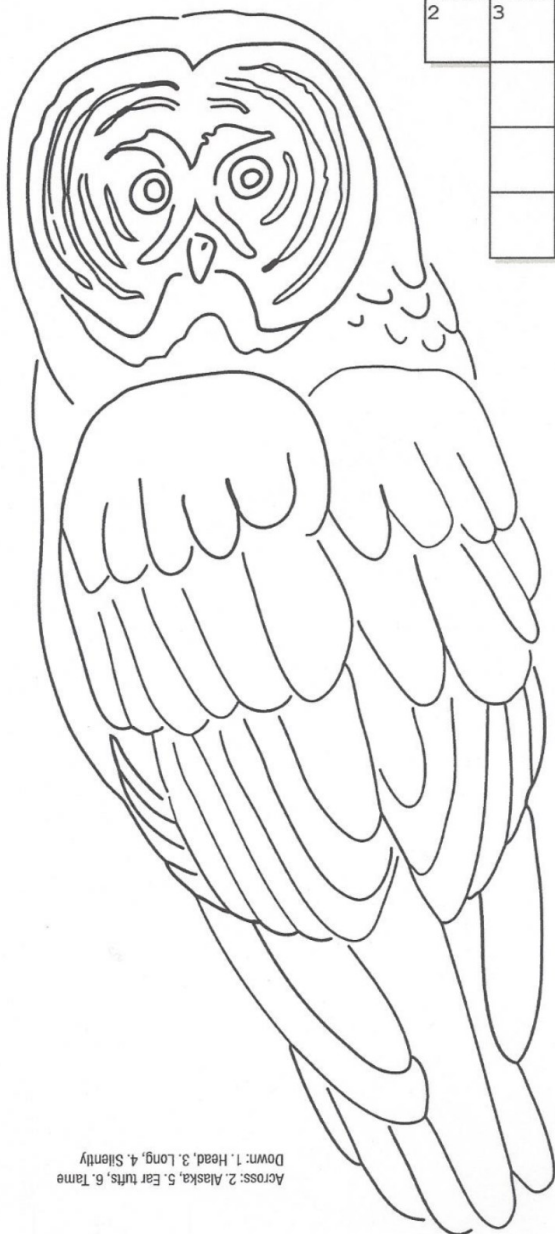
**Crossword Solution**  
**Across:** 1. Heart, 2. Any,  
 4. Buildings, 5. Night, 6. Farms  
**Down:** 1. Hearing, 3. Monkey Face,

## Barn Owl Fun Facts:

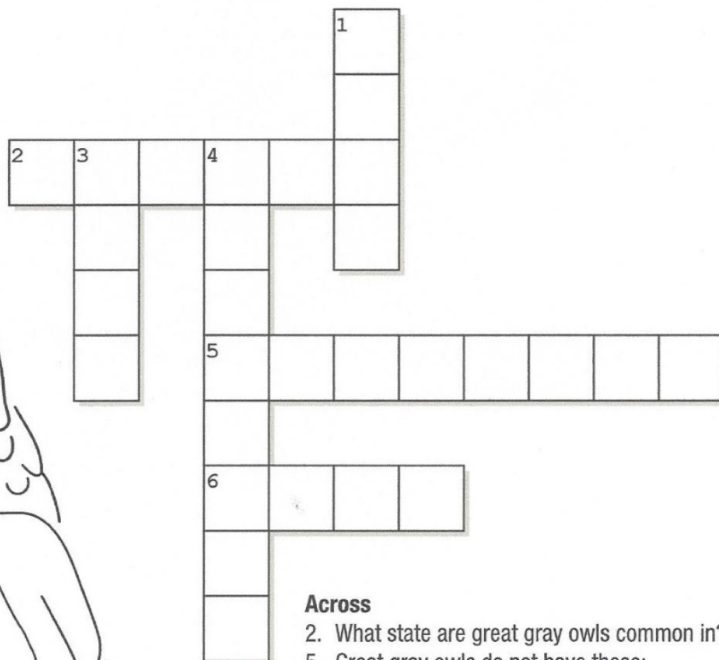
- ✕ Barn owls nest in buildings.
- ✕ The barn owl hunts in areas cleared for farms.
- ✕ The barn owl has long legs and a heart shaped face.
- ✕ The barn owl's face is sometimes called a monkey face.
- ✕ Barn owls hunt for food at night.
- ✕ Barn owls can hunt in complete darkness by using the sense of hearing.
- ✕ Barn owls nest any time of the year.



# Great Gray Owl



Across: 2. Alaska, 5. Ear tufts, 6. Tame  
Down: 1. Head, 3. Long, 4. Silently



## Across

2. What state are great gray owls common in?
5. Great gray owls do not have these: \_\_\_\_\_.
6. People can get close to this \_\_\_\_\_ owl.

## Down

1. What part of the great gray owl's body is very large?
3. The great gray owl's tail is very \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The great gray owl flies \_\_\_\_\_.

## Fun Facts

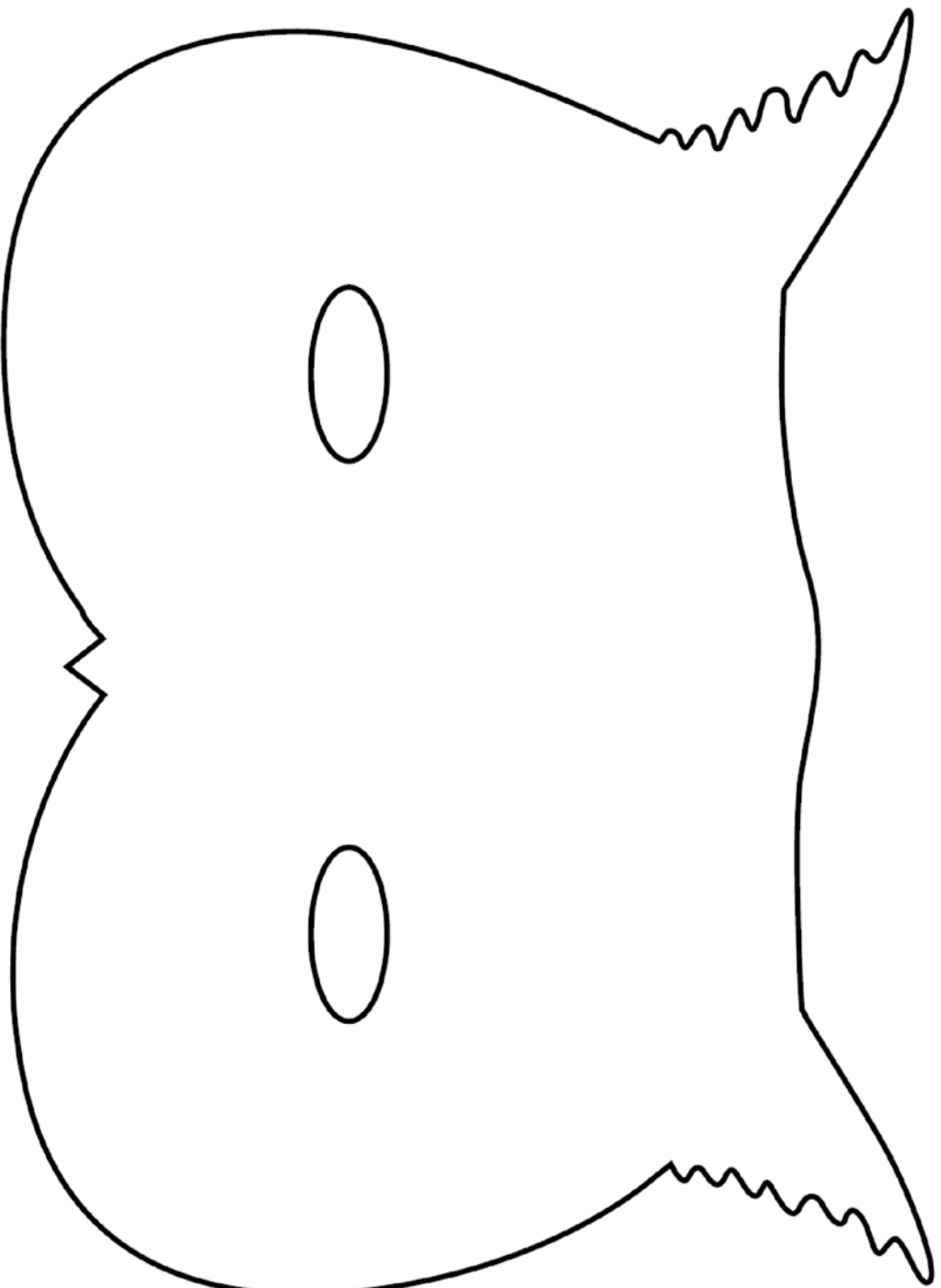
- ◆ The great gray owl is the largest American owl.
- ◆ The great gray owl has a long tail and a very large head.
- ◆ The great gray owl is common in North America, including Alaska.
- ◆ The great gray owl can hear the slightest sound even though it has no ear tufts.
- ◆ The great gray owl flies silently with deep wing beats.
- ◆ The great gray owl is fearless and often tame enough for people to get close to them.

# Owl Mask

Cut out the owl mask below, don't forget to cut out the two eye holes.

Decorate it – colour it in, paint it, stick bits on...

Punch a hole on either side of the owl's head and thread some ribbon or string through them so you can tie the mask securely around your own head. T-wit t-woo!





Can you think of any other birds of prey?

Owls are **birds of prey**

What is an adaptation?

Owls have many **adaptations** which make them good hunters

Many owls are **crepuscular**, this means they are active at dawn and dusk

What other animals have good eyesight or hearing?

**Good eyesight and hearing** help owls track down food

Owls have **sharp claws** to catch their prey

Owls have a **hooked beak** to tear food apart

Owl wings are tipped by very **soft feathers**, helping them fly silently and swoop down on unsuspecting prey!

What other animals do this?

Owls often swallow their prey whole!

Owls don't have teeth so they tear up large bits of food with their beak and claws

Owls **can't digest bones,** beaks, teeth, claws and fur

Food is broken down in an owl's 'gizzard'. Flesh passes to the stomach to be digested...

Which other birds make pellets?

...bones, teeth and fur are squeezed into **sausage-shaped pellets** in the gizzard then coughed up

Owls can produce two or three pellets a day

**Owl pellets aren't poo!** They don't pass through the intestine, they are regurgitated out of the owl's mouth



# How Owls Form a Pellet

*An Illustrated Study*

## 1. SWALLOWING

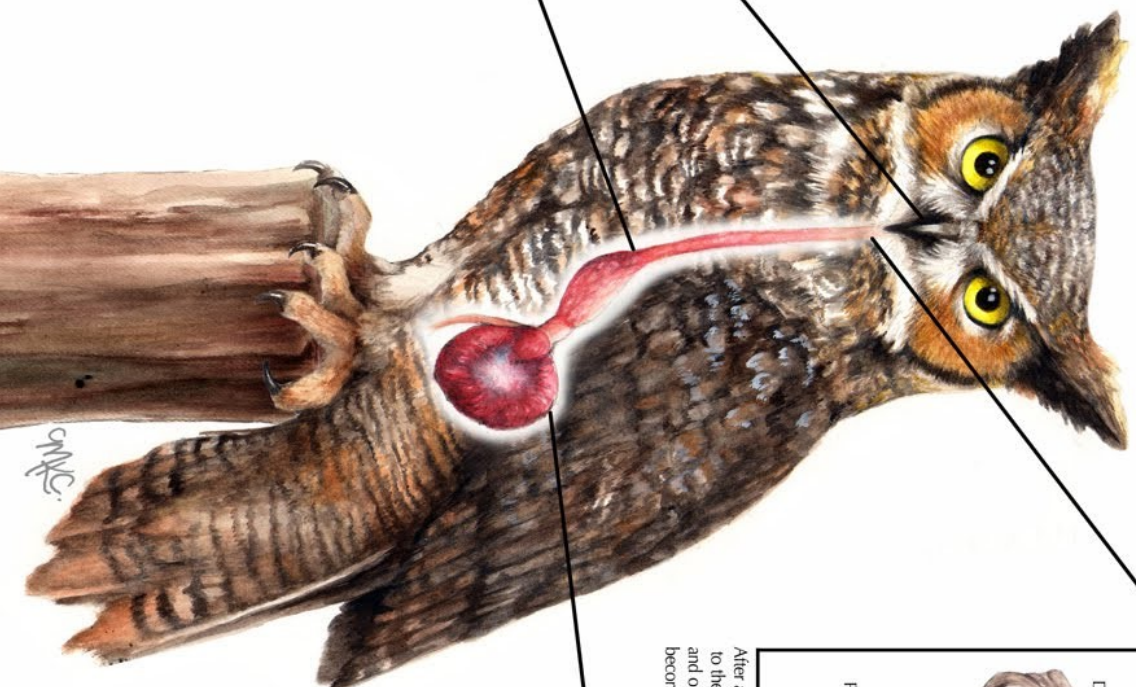


Food is forced into the back of the buccal, or oral, cavity, where a series of muscle contractions, or peristalsis, at the top of the esophagus pull it down through the rest of the esophagus into the proventriculus.

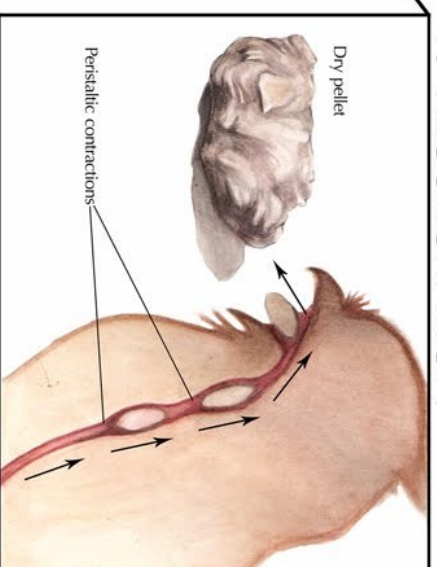
## 2. PROVENTRICULUS



The proventriculus, also known as the first stomach, receives the food from the esophagus and secretes mucus, hydrochloric acid (HCL), and pepsinogen, preparing the food for the move into the ventriculus.

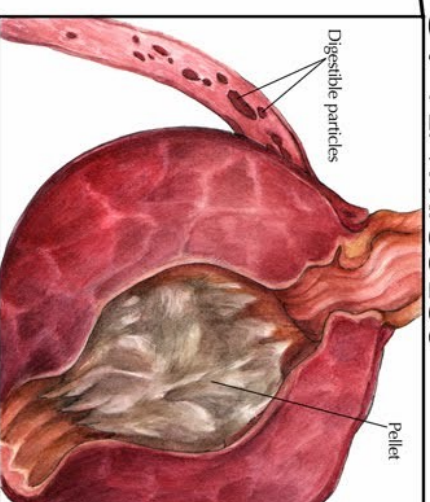


## 4. REGURGITATION



After a period of about 8-10 hours, the pellet travels from the ventriculus back up to the proventriculus, where peristalsis forces the pellet up through the esophagus and out of the mouth. Pellet formation is complete, and the mass of fur/bones/etc becomes the dry pellet that is often collected for educational dissection.

## 3. VENTRICULUS



The ventriculus, also known as the gizzard, receives the food from the proventriculus. Lined with several tough, thick layers of muscle, the gizzard acts as the avian equivalent of teeth as it grinds and pushes the food within the inner chamber. Digestible materials are separated and passed on into the small intestine, while the remaining indigestible mass of fur and bone is left to form the pellet.

Tawny Owl



Kestrel



Barn Owl



Little Owl



Jackdaw





# White Faced Scops Owl



This is the White-faced Scops-Owl or Northern White-faced Owl (*Ptilopsis leucotis*).

This species demonstrates amazing responses to different types of adversaries.

These three images are all the same owl simply manipulating its plumage!





## Tawny Frogmouth In the Cryptic Pose

The Tawny Frogmouth, *Podargus strigoides*, is an Australian variety of frogmouth, a type of bird found throughout the Australian mainland, Tasmania and southern New Guinea.

The Tawny Frogmouth is often thought to be an owl. Many Australians incorrectly refer to the Tawny Frogmouth by the colloquial names of "Mopoke" or "Morepork", however, these are actually common alternative names for the Southern Boobook Owl. Frogmouths are not raptorial birds.







# *Falconry UK*

## *Answer Sheet*

1. To see far distances
2. Gauntlet
3. These are day hunting owls or day and night hunters
4. Feathers
5. To help them hear better
6. Talons
7. Hearing and Eyesight
8. Peregrine Falcon
9. Females
10. Mammals... Mice, Voles, Shrews etc...
11. By moving their head
12. It forms into an 'Owl Pellet'
13. When Birds of Prey Loose their feathers and re-grow them
14. Tawny Owl, Barn Owl, Long Eared Owl, Little Owl, Short Eared Owl
15. They are used to sense their food at close distances





# *Falconry UK*

## *Answer Sheet*

### Rearrange Letters

#### Sheet 1

1. Owl
2. Hawk
3. Eagle
4. Kestrel
5. Vulture

#### Sheet 2

1. Snowy Owl
2. Eagle Owl
3. Golden Eagle
4. American Kestrel
5. Scops Owl

#### Sheet 3

1. Red Tailed Hawk
2. Ural Owl
3. Wood Owl
4. Vulture
5. Tawny Eagle

#### Sheet 4

1. Great Gray Owl
2. Burrowing Owl
3. Saker Falcon
4. Falcon
5. Milky Owl

#### Sheet 5

1. Black Eagle
2. Peregrine Falcon
3. Stepee Eagle
4. Marsh Owl
5. Eurasian Kestrel